

MINUTES  
TOWN OF GROTON  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING  
FEBRUARY 4, 2013 - 5:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL ANNEX, COMMUNITY ROOM 3

I. ROLL CALL

Commission: Rafferty, Goulet, Bogue, Munn  
Staff: Jones, Berry

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF January 7, 2013

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 7, 2013.

Motion by Goulet, seconded by Munn, so voted unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Joellen Anderson spoke to the Commission about some clearing and grading activity taking place on Thomas Road in the Coastal Zone. Staff noted that the Zoning Inspector is aware of the work and that she will review the work to determine whether it is an Inland Wetland Agency issue. If the work is in tidal wetlands, it falls under the state's jurisdiction.

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Conservation and Recreation Projects and Goals – discussion with Mark Berry, Director Parks and Recreation

Mark Berry, the new Director of the Parks and Recreation Department updated the Commission on maintenance work in the Beebe Pond Park. He described the recently formed Trail Coordination Task Force and reviewed the Task Force's goals.

Rafferty reviewed the Commission's work on planning for trails in the Town's open space properties. He reviewed the greenbreak concept first described in the 1969 Conservation Plan and the Commission's input into various efforts to acquire open space lands. He noted the lack of access to the Groton Utility Watershed lands.

The Commission discussed various issues with a number of town properties including erosion problems at Pequot Woods, amenity improvements at Beebe Woods, and lack of town properties with coastal access.

2. Review of Land Currently Assessed as Farm or Forest Under PA 490

The Commission reviewed the map showing properties that have reduced assessments under PA 490. They noted that many of the properties are the same as those with resources making them desirable for protection. They will compare the 490 map to their map of properties desirable for protection at a future meeting.

V. REPORT OF CHAIRMAN - None

VI. REPORT OF STAFF - None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM

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Gail Munn, Secretary  
Conservation Commission

Prepared by Deborah G. Jones  
Environmental Planner